

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Jesus on a night train since 1911

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1994

Blood drive is an open wound

Reps put forward motion to rescind Students' Society decision

BY LIZ UNNA

The debate over the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) blood drive questionnaire continues to rage on campus. Members of Students' Society have reopened the issue by bringing forward a motion to revoke the council's decision to cease sponsoring blood drives at McGill.

Some groups on campus are furious about the new proposal. Chris Carter, coordinator for Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays of McGill (LBGM), calls it an example of "blatant homophobia".

On November 11, 1993, Students' Society decided the CRC Health Assessment Questionnaire unfairly targets gay and bisexual men. They voted to boycott blood drives on campus until the CRC changes its questionnaire, namely question 12a which asks potential male donors if, since 1977, they have had "sex with another male, even once".

Members of council and members from Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays of McGill (LBGM) objected to question 12a because it focuses on high risk groups rather than high risk activities, and thus prevents a whole community from donating blood while accepting blood from straights who practise unsafe sex.

The new motion was submitted by Medicine rep David McCaughey, Athletics rep James Stewart and Arts reps Corey Cooke and Liane Thomas.

Citing a CRC statistic, the motion states that "the risk of contracting HIV from a

transfusion, when the donor has had protected (i.e. use of a condom) sex with a gay male (1/2000) is 58 times higher than from a donor that has had unprotected sex with a heterosexual (1/115000)."

The motion will be debated at tomorrow's council meeting. According to McCaughey, the goal of the debate will be to determine whether or not the questionnaire discriminates against queer men. He feels councillors were not presented with all sides of the argument at the November 11th meeting, which was not attended by any representatives from the CRC.

Cooke agrees. "It's my opinion that people on council didn't make an informed decision last time," he said. "My main problem is that the CRC wasn't there to present their side of the issue."

McCaughey will grant speaking rights at tomorrow's meeting to Dr. Gilles Delage, regional director of the CRC.

"I want the Red Cross to present its position and the councillors to make an educated decision."

Opposition to the motion

Groups on campus are angered by the new motion. "This move highlights the huge amount of homophobia at McGill. They're hiding behind the notion of student democracy and representation," said Chris Carter.

Carter counters the statistic cited in the new motion. "According to a 1993

survey [Canadian Survey of Gay and Bisexual Men and HIV infection], over 51% of Montréal gay men don't even have anal sex," he said. Of those that do, says Carter, they "vastly know and practice safe sex."

He is frustrated by the confusion over LBGM's position regarding the blood drive. "The foremost issue is that there are loopholes in the screening. What we are asking them [the CRC] to do is add on safe sex questions, actually word out anal/vaginal intercourse, and to take out the sweeping statements."

As it stands the questionnaire does not screen out heterosexual women who have had unprotected sex, despite the fact that heterosexual women are the fastest growing group of people contracting HIV.

A new question is being added to the questionnaire which will eliminate women who have had sex with a man of "unknown past sexual history."

McCaughey argues that although rates of HIV are rising among heterosexual women, the numbers of people with HIV/AIDS are still highest among gay men.

"Right now, unfortunately, having sex with a gay male is a risky activity," he said. "Condoms offer a better degree of protection, but they don't protect you entirely. Safe sex doesn't exist from a blood supply aspect. To get HIV you have to have contact and it has to be with an individual who's infected. That's the heart of the CRC's reasoning for eliminating 5% of the population [gay men]."

CEGEP reform angers students

Solving the eternal student dilemma

BY TAYA TALUKDAR

Students are angry with the provincial government's reform policy of forcing CEGEP students who have failed a certain number of courses to pay fifty dollars per course, claiming the move is discriminatory and ineffective.

According to Serge Charlebois, president of la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec (FEUQ), the introduction of "user fees" is simply a means for the government to implement tuition fees at the college level.

"The user fees do not have the effect they expected. That measure was strictly to implement tuition fees and that's what happened," he said.

Charlebois maintained that the "eternal students" problem is not as large an educational problem as the government insists.

The Ministry of Education looks upon the reform as a measure to encourage students to pursue their studies within a certain amount of time.

"It's only to make sure that people know that when they're in school, they have to work the best they can to succeed

and if they get too many failures, to have the possibility to continue their class they will have to subscribe to a minimum [pay failure fine]," said Sophie Gagnon, press attaché for education minister Jacques Chagnon.

According to Gagnon, the ministry objects to the use of the term "user fee", since the fifty dollars only applies to those who repeatedly fail their courses.

Gagnon noted those who take longer to finish their degree because of work will not have to pay the fee while those who do will be able to return to free classes once they succeed in a certain number of courses.

Charlebois claimed the reform's failure to solve the perceived problem of high failure rates has led the CEGEPs to maintain Article 33, which requires students who repeatedly fail courses to sign a contract with the institution, promising to apply themselves more intensely to their studies.

This measure was supposed to have been removed with the implementation of the reform. The student movement originally

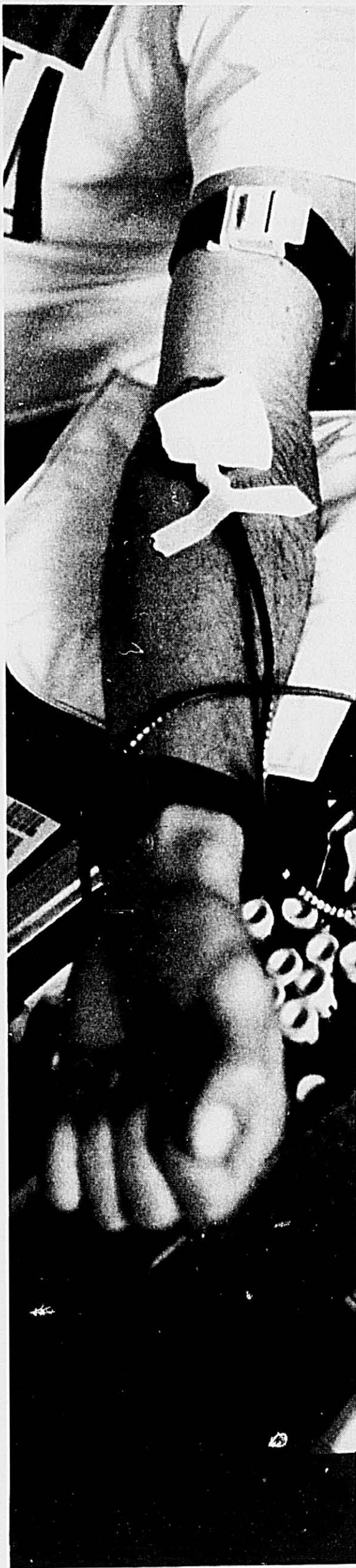
defended Article 33 as sufficient in itself in solving the problem of failing students.

"It's good because it excludes students on the basis of their marks and on the basis of their willingness to study, while the user fee is on the basis of money," said Stephenie Vennes, president of la Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec (FECQ).

Both Charlebois and Vennes also argued against the application of the reform, and said that it is not being implemented in the same way in CEGEPs across Québec.

Ultimately, the issue of CEGEP reform is tied to the fundamental problem of lack of funding. According to Charlebois, the funding of CEGEPs has shrunk over the years in a way comparable to that of universities. Both he and Vennes decry the fact that students are being forced to pay more for what amounts to fewer services and a poorer quality of education.

"In the perspective of the next elections we are going to campaign together with all the groups that want to promote education as education and not only as a financial problem or a public budget crisis," said Charlebois.





McGill

Attention all Arts & Science Undergraduate Students

VERIFICATION PERIOD IS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW!

From FEBRUARY 7-11, 1994 you can pick up your verification in the lobby of the Arts Building between 9:30 AM and 4:30 PM.

Please take this opportunity to check your entire record and make any corrections or additions.

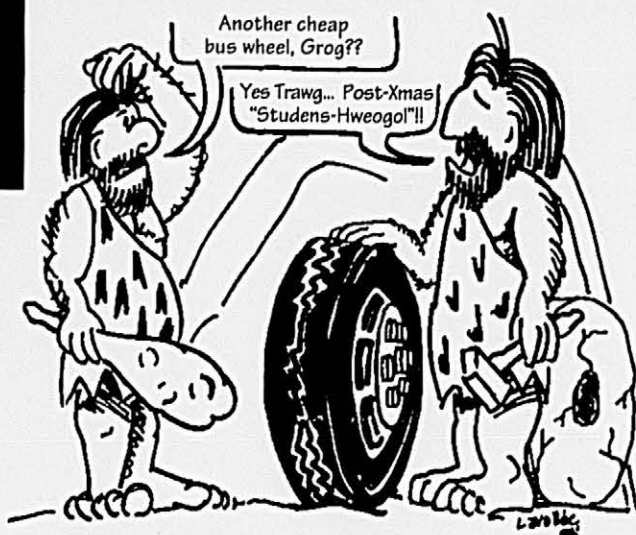
Return your verification to the Student Affairs Office, Dawson Hall, and

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP A COPY!

Reminder: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1994 is the deadline to withdraw from "B" Term Courses via MARS with no refund.

This notice is placed by your Student Affairs Office.

VOYAGEUR RE-INVENTS THE WHEEL!



"STUDENS-HWEOGOL"?? "Students' Wheels" to the uninitiated like **TRAWG**. Yes, looks like **GROG** has taken a turn for the worse and gone off to study Old English this term, or should we say Future English for him?! Anyway, for you the "studens", it means a good deal. Take advantage of **GROG'S** post-Xmas deflationary, antiquarian stance and travel between **Montréal** and **Toronto** at just \$59.* return with **Voyageur**.

Grog's busy with his ancient manuscripts right through **March 30th 1994**. But you must return by that date!!

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You must be 25 years of age or less and present a valid 1993-94 fulltime studies Student I.D. card (cards issued in previous school years must be validated for '93-94) or a Registrar's Confirmation of Enrollment. No discounted One-way fare available. Taxes as applicable are extra. All travel must be completed by March 30th, 1994.



Good eats

Organic food grows at McGill

BY GEOFF HOCKERT

Organic fruits, vegetables and dry goods are now available to McGill students at discount prices.

Last semester, a group of McGill students got together to form LOAF, an organic food co-operative. A co-operative (or co-op) is a buying group in which members pool together to buy food collectively.

"We buy organic food for three reasons," says Tamara Ticktin, a founding member of the co-op, "for our bodies, the environment and for the people that must harvest the food."

Organic produce is grown without the use of pesticides, insecticides or chemical fertilizers, unlike conventional farming, which uses chemicals and fertilizers which have been shown to be harmful to humans and to the environment.

"It's a responsible food choice," said co-op member Julie Perkins.

Much of the produce Canadians import for sale in commercial grocery stores, especially in the winter, tends to come from the U.S. and Latin America.

Ticktin said there are a number of reasons for consumers to avoid buying food from outside of Canada. Pesticide use is generally greater south of the border, and agricultural workers are often exposed to harmful effects of frequent contact with the chemicals.

The co-op also tries to buy locally grown produce in order to support local farming and to limit the environmental costs of transportation.

While most of the food is purchased from Distribue-Vie, a local organic supplier, the co-op did establish a direct purchasing arrangement with a farmer in the Eastern Townships last fall.

By buying in bulk directly from the distributor, there is no mark up

on the prices and there is less packaging, all of which lowers costs for co-op members.

Local organic produce, such as potatoes and carrots, often cost the same or less than non-organic local produce.

Organic carrots at the co-op, for instance, were available this month for \$.65 a kilogram, as compared with \$1.52 a kilogram at the local grocery store.

Imported organic produce however, such as bananas or oranges are usually more expensive than non-organic produce.

In addition to fruits and vegetables, the co-op sells organic dry goods like grains and beans, as well as peanut butter, pasta and other goods made from organic ingredients.

"(Organic food) is better for you and tastes better", said volunteer Ayesha who — *cut out if no last name*.

Since last September, the co-op's membership (mostly students) has grown to forty, more than half of whom are volunteering to help with co-op management such as food ordering, sorting, and finances.

"Sometimes you don't always get what you want (but) it's working great overall," said co-op member Pat Mallett.

Anyone can order food from the Co-op. Show up on Mondays from 11h30-16h30 at the office of the Québec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) in room 505 of the Eaton Building. A deposit is required. Food can be picked up at 17h on Wednesdays from the same location; meetings follow.

To find out more about volunteering, come to the office on Monday afternoon or leave your name and number at the PIRG office (398-7432).



McGill

Notice to Students in Arts & Science

The Student Affairs Office of the Faculties of Arts & Science is currently being reviewed. An Open Forum will be held on **Wednesday 9 February 1994** from **4:00 – 6:00 p.m.** in **Leacock 232** to give students an opportunity to relate their experiences or express their opinions about the work of the office.

Students who would prefer to relate their experiences to the Review Committee in private session can call to arrange an appointment with the Secretary of the Committee at 398-4990 (Office of the Dean of Students).

The members of the committee are:

- I. Gopnik, Dean of Students, Chair
- J. Hobbins, Associate Director, Libraries
- J. Pharo, Senior Advisor, Faculty of Engineering
- A. Scrannage, VP Academic, AUS
- C. Katz, VP Academic, SUS
- T. Duff, Secretary



events

TODAY

International Socialists meeting and discussion: Why do socialists say "British Troops out of Northern Ireland!" In the Hall building, Concordia University H771.

ECO will be having a worm composting workshop. For more information, drop by the ECO office (Shatner 410) or call 842-2475 before Feb. 11.

Progressive Zionist Caucus and **Hillel House** present **Israeli Consul-General Izhak Levanon of Montréal — Update on the Peace Process**. 15h30 at Hillel House, 3460 Stanley St. All are welcome.

Development Week Activities in Shatner 107-108.

- 13h00 **Stewart Istvanffy**, Human Rights Lawyer speaks on "Democracy and Development: Human Rights Perspectives."

- 14h00 **Mario Rojas**, Mexican Human Rights Activist speaks on "NAFTA and Democracy in Mexico."

- 15h00 **Speaker and slides:** Debbie Payne from University Network for El Salvador on "A Tree for Life: A Community-based Reforestation Project in El Salvador."

ONGOING

Blood Relations by Sharon Pollack at **McGill Player's Theatre**. Running until Feb. 12, Tuesdays to Saturdays at 8pm. Tickets \$5 for students. Call 398-6813.

The Association of Yoga and Meditation offers meditation sessions Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12h30 to 13h30, Tuesday 11h30 to 12h30, and Thursday 13h15 to 14h15 in Shatner 425.

There are still a few spots left for women who want to take **ACTION** courses! The classes will be held March 12 and 13 and cost McGill students only \$30. For info, call Walksafe 398-2498



THIS interview is the second part of a two-part interview on the situation in Mexico. Last week, former Mexican opposition leader, Mario Rojas, spoke about the situation in Chiapas.

This week Mario discusses his party's response to the uprising, the government's response to the insurrection under President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, and the uprising's connection to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Daily: What is the official position of the PRD on the situation in Chiapas?

Mario Rojas: The official position of the party has been evolving as the situation has developed in Chiapas.

When the insurrection began, Salinas made a major effort to destroy it. Fifteen to seventeen thousand soldiers were sent to Chiapas. Our party stated that the solution in Chiapas should not be military but political. The fact that there was strong internal and international reaction, this caused Salinas to change his tactics.

So Salinas changed the Interior Minister, who had been one of the most aggressive and most favourable to violence. His name is Gonzales Garrido. He had, up until recently, been the governor of the state of Chiapas. And as such, he was one of those who was primarily responsible for the violence and repression that had taken place in the region. The majority of the people [in Chiapas] saw his removal as a positive step especially since he was replaced by Jorge Carpizo.

Carpizo was the founder of the National Commission for Human Rights in Mexico. As such, he has the image of an honest person, one who is in favour of human rights. Salinas also named a Commissioner for Peace, Mr. Camacho Solis. He has a reputation as a good negotiator and is seen as a good conciliator.

Then Salinas decreed a unilateral cease-fire and he also declared a thirty-day amnesty for guerrillas who laid down their arms. So it's obvious that now Salinas is looking for a political solution rather than a military solution.

What is the position of PRD? First of all, this question of amnesty. It is positive depending on the way that it is carried out. At this moment, it can be used by the army to absolve itself of its responsibilities for the massacres that have occurred. It wants to retain impunity for political assassinations which occurred before and after the uprising. There should have been negotiations and dialogue between the two parties before the amnesty was declared.

As far as the cease-fire, it has not been adhered to. There has been a diminishing of violence but there are still certain areas where the military continues its belligerent activities. Because of this, we [PRD] call for mechanisms to verify the validity of the cease-fire. There should be some sense of revision of both the cease-fire and the amnesty.

Our party has not condemned the use of armed insurrection as a way of resolving the problems of the people of Chiapas. We have insisted on investigating the causes and the origins of this violence. We insist that our

Dispelling the myths about Chiapas, PART II

Former Mexican opposition leader gives his perspectives on NAFTA, Salinas, and Chiapas

by Chris Sheridan
with translations by Hoori Hamboyan and Francisco Uribe

movement [PRD] will continue to look for change through peaceful and electoral means. But we do not condemn social groups which have opted for paths different from ours.

And your position on NAFTA?

In Canada, we heard surprise that the rebels called NAFTA their worst enemy. The people here asked "what does NAFTA have to do with an armed insurrection?" Those of us who know Mexico see a very logical relation.

Salinas changed article 27 of the Mexican constitution. The article refers to the legal ownership of land. He did this to adapt Mexi-

can laws to the requirements of the free trade agreement. The change allows that the 'Ejidos' [communal indigenous lands] be sold or rented. Before, that was prohibited by the constitution. So now, foreign and domestic corporations will be able to acquire all of the land that has been guaranteed by the constitution to the Indian peoples.

The traditional way of living is thus put in jeopardy. It is for this reason that the Zapatistas have declared NAFTA their main enemy. They might accept a treaty as long as it respected the traditional land-holding patterns of their communities. But that is my personal opinion.

What would you like to see the Canadian government doing with respect to the situation in Chiapas and on NAFTA?

I believe that the opinion of our three peoples [Canadian, Mexican, and American], manifested itself during the years of negotiation of this treaty. There was a lot of opposition to it [NAFTA].

I may be wrong but I believe that the people of Canada showed their opposition to NAFTA by massively electing the Liberal party, which proposed re-opening negotiations on this treaty. They [Liberal Party] wanted to discuss the protection of human rights, labour rights, environmental protection, and the question of Canadian energy.

The main thing that I would respectfully ask for is the protection of human rights. I think that the people in the three countries are interested in expanding trade as long as peace and human rights are taken into consideration. As long as human rights are not protected, violence can erupt in other parts of Mexico.

How much support does Salinas have within Mexico?

I don't think he has ever had much popular support. He became president of Mexico without ever having had the majority of the votes [due to consistent electoral fraud]. In the past thirty years, the government of Mexico has been governing with less than thirty per cent support from the population.

Even if the population of Mexico had given him the majority of the votes, something which is not true, he does not, at present, have more than eighteen to twenty-five per cent support.

Are there elections in Mexico coming up soon? There will be elections in August of this year.

Will you be running in the elections?

I don't know. It's not entirely up to me. I am interested in participating but my personal safety is not guaranteed.

Mario Rojas will be speaking today at McGill as part of Development Week. The discussions will begin at 13h00 in Union 107 and will run all day.

"Peace" Accord excludes Refugees in Lebanon

Palestinians in Lebanon are angry at the lack of attention paid to their struggle during the Israeli-PLO peace negotiations that have taken place over the past few months. Hundreds have taken to the streets since the signing of the accord to protest their exclusion from the talks.

Thousands of Palestinians fled to south Lebanon after Israel occupied the Golan Heights and Gaza strip in 1967. Since that time, Palestinians have seen their once thriving communities diminish to dingy poverty-stricken areas. Faced with constant attacks from Israel and Syria, affluent Palestinians have emigrated, over the years, to Europe and North America, bringing the number of Palestinians in south Lebanon from its pre-1982 level of 20 000 to today's population of just over 2500.

Palestinians in Lebanon fear the PLO will agree to a proposal which would grant compensation to them only if Palestinians rescind their claims to a homeland in the occupied territories.

—Middle East Report, January-February 1994

American military opens fire on innocent Somalis

U.S. military officials have defended last week's killing of eight Somali citizens.

According to a U.S. military spokesperson, the Marines were responding to sniper fire. Some journalists verified this by saying they had heard two single shots before the twenty-two Marines "began to fire indiscriminately in the direction of the crowd." The spokesperson said no other shots were fired by snipers after the initial two shots.

But a Bangladeshi commander stationed nearby claimed none of the one hundred fifty troops in his regiment heard any initial shots before the Marines opened fire.

Twenty-eight Somalis were wounded. Three of the dead were children.

—Worker's World Service

Colombians angered by U.S. presence

A contingent of one hundred fifty U.S. troops recently arrived in Columbia to a hostile reception. Protest came from politicians, labour leaders and the general population.

While their official activities include building roads, schools and clinics in the Cauca valley, their unofficial activities include enforcing U.S. foreign policy goals towards the Cali cartel, a complex of drug-related business in southwest Columbia.

President Cesar Gaviria, whose mandate ends this year, said he was exchanging Colombian military bases for Washington's endorsement of his campaign to run for secretary-general of the Organization of American States.

—Andean Group Report, January 1994

Ex-governor of Chiapas knew about tensions

In June 1993, a weekly Mexican magazine, *Proceso*, printed details of guerilla training camps in Chiapas. In response, Interior Minister and ex-governor of Chiapas, Patrocinio Gonzalez Blanco Garrido, said, "There are no guerillas in Chiapas. To say that there are, causes grave damage to the state's development. It is very important for Chiapas to attract investment and to generate jobs... This requires capital. And if stories are generated that the state is unstable and insecure, stories that have no basis in reality, the state's backwardness will only be accentuated."

—Mexico and NAFTA Report, January 20th, 1994



EDITORIAL

Saving the World

This week McGill students grapple with the concept of 'development' as it applies to the so-called 'Third World'. But how closely have those pushing Western notions of development actually challenged the colonial assumptions they are rooted in?

Today the 'development' ideology of contempt has replaced the rhetoric of formal colonialism. Developers operate on the assumption that the people they're 'developing' are striving for a Western or European route to development with all the exorbitant consumption that it implies. Those not willing to follow this path do so at an extreme cost, from the Opium Wars to the U.S. blockade of Cuba.

Many forget that the economic and social development of Western countries was, and still is, predicated upon the enslavement and colonization of people from 'undeveloped' countries.

The English industrial revolution was largely financed by the successful colonization of India. The opium trade with China brought enormous amounts of silver to London, which fueled its early industrial expansion.

Britain's dominance in manufacturing textiles was achieved at the expense of Indian producers, whose industries were deliberately destroyed by the British colonizers. British industry turned huge profits using unpaid African labour to pick and produce cotton. These events laid the groundwork for the future global economic and military dominance by the West.

Although Europe's own industrial expansion was not founded on the basis of 'free' exchange, the current development rhetoric insists that open markets are a prerequisite for any 'developing' country's advancement. The IMF and World Bank packages preach this doctrine, opening 'Third World' markets for western corporate interests.

In the free trade zones of Mexico, *laissez faire* logic has produced exploitative labour conditions, where the right to strike is denied, wages are low and have fallen by 50 per cent in the last decade. Chemical wastes from the factories cause birth defects at near-epidemic levels.

The 'Third World' is being virtually strangled by debt repayments. Between 1984 and 1989, 242 billion dollars flowed from the South to the North in order to pay the interest on loans alone. Meanwhile, billions of dollars in resources and cheap labour are extracted yearly from the many 'Third World' countries.

Claims that Canada is itself 'developed' are dubious given the levels of poverty and homelessness that exist across this country. Moreover, discussions on development often focus on the 'Third World' conditions outside of Canada (for example, lack of clean water, hunger, poor medical treatment) but fail to acknowledge those conditions within Canada, particularly on native reserves.

Even as western and western-educated liberals seem to be questioning traditional development practices, their attempts to right past and present wrongs often reflect the same condescending attitudes which fueled colonialism in the first place. Trying to atone for the sins of colonial development by "helping the Third World" along the road of colonial and post-colonial development simply puts a new face on old attitudes.

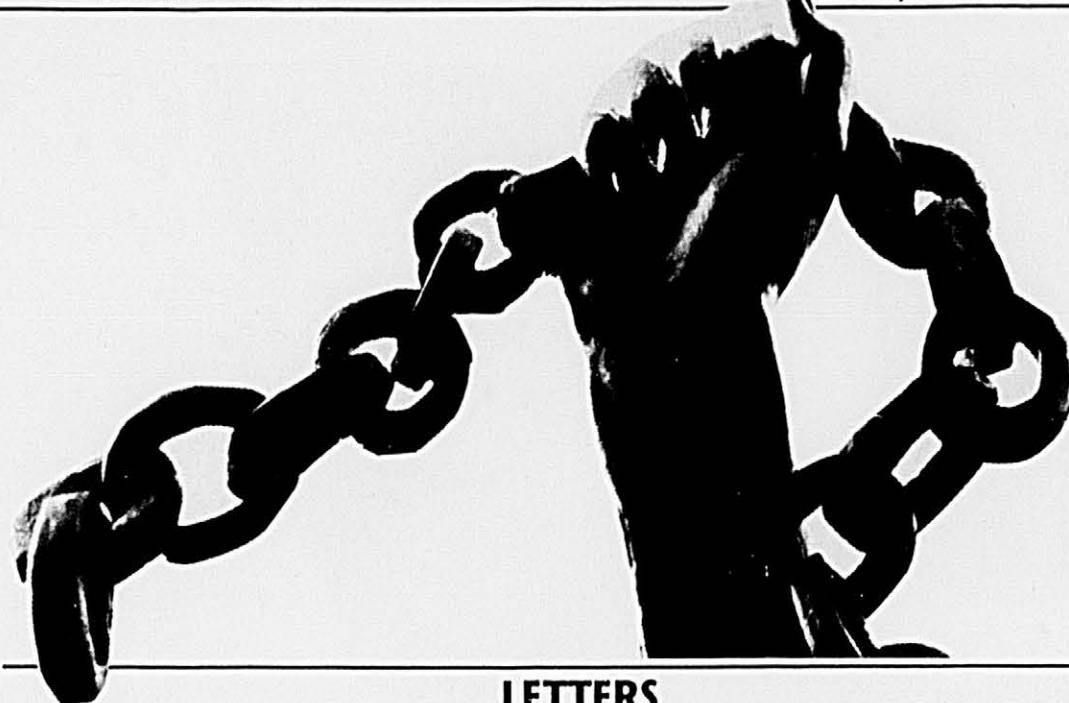
Little is done to challenge the existing power relations of which the west bears the brunt of responsibility for the underdevelopment of the 'Third World'. Talking about Canadian aid is a convenient way of ignoring the real issue, which is western participation in a system of global inequality.

Developing the world is a booming business. Private contractors compete over most of Canada's 'aid' money, and of course the goal of any business is to turn a profit, not uproot poverty. The recent Auditor-General's Report confirms that aid has not succeeded in making the poorest people better off, but it has gone to further Canadian corporate interests.

'Development' not only helps Canadian business, but it gives university students a chance to visit exotic lands, eat strange foods and add impressive travel experiences to their resumes. Plus, all your friends will be impressed by the neat artifacts you have collected along the way.

Discussions about development are undoubtedly well-intentioned and at the very least raise awareness about issues of global inequality, but those who work in development should keep in mind that good intentions are only the first step.

The Staff of The McGill Daily



LETTERS

Questioning 'sisterhood'

To the Daily,

Re: Sisterhood is not global (Feb. 3)
Rima Banerji's comment on the treatment of world majority women and perceived misogyny within these cultures by the Western feminist movement is an excellent expression of an underexposed issue. The oft-perpetuated notion that there is unity on virtually any front of any women's liberation movement is naive and false, and to have the impression that one "feminism" speaks for all women is ridiculous.

However, to say that the Western feminist movement is oblivious to the oppression of women in our own cultures and unequivocally denounces "questionable" practices concerning females in world majority cultures (particularly Asian and African), is as much of a generalization as the assumption that what is right for one woman is right for all women everywhere.

Certainly, the notions of cultural superiority which plague Western cultures and behaviour has crept into and clouded many corners of feminist activism. I do not believe it possible to deny this. Nor, however, do I feel that our own issues of body image, domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment are being consistently underplayed by the white middle-class women who are the dominant voices of "our" women's movement.

What is the answer? It is impossible to educate oneself into the cultural context of another. This said, it might be concluded that practices within other cultures deemed harmful or even unlawful by our own may never be understood as anything else. Perhaps this is an inevitable problem within the multicultural Canadian society we are living in.

I would like to think differently. It is important for those of us who are white, middle-class feminists not to become

blinded by our self-perceived liberalism. Constant evaluation of our own judgements and behaviour is crucial — so are constant reminders from the women we may be hurting in our "liberation" efforts.

Emma Mason
U2 Geography

Palestinian and proud

To the Daily:

I am a Palestinian. I am proud of it. Surprised? I am. With the way the media goes on, I should be cowering in shame. After all, my ancestors are nothing but terrorists and barbarians. Funny, I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary at the last family gathering.

Every day, I fight a constant upward battle to dispel media myths. I am sick and tired of the racist, prejudice garbage I read in every paper, every day. I am going to puke on the next person who asks me why I am not covered from head to foot (not all Palestinians are Muslim and even if they were, not all Muslims practice this custom). I am going to spontaneously combust if another person tells me that the Palestinians already have a homeland, in Jordan. What most people don't realize is that Palestine existed less than fifty years ago before the United Nations created an Israel that, incidentally, was significantly smaller in 1948 than it is today.

It's okay to call a Palestinian, or other Arab, anything under the sun. For example, Disney's Aladdin gets off on calling all Arabs barbaric... they cut off your ear if they don't like your face, it's barbaric but its home." Oh, and Washington, DC is a real Utopia. At least people in the Middle East are fighting for something, whether that be a nation, or political freedom, it is something. In North America people fight mostly because they are bored.

No other group gets the treatment that Arabs do. When was the last time a public figure generalized about people of colour and was tolerated. When was

the last time media portrayed Jews in a negative light without being virtually shut down. And that is the way it should be. No one should perpetrate stereotypes and generalizations of any kind against any group... period.

Leila Mouammar
Arts U1

From Grasshoppers to Goldfish

To the Daily,

Reynald Hoskinson's recent review of the Eric's Trip concert was another sterling example of how local bands are ignored by Montreal's citizens and media. The reviewer listed the opening acts as the Nils and the "Grasshoppers." Having attended the said show to see the opening act "Goldfish", I am left bewildered and irritated that someone would pay ten dollars to see a concert, skip the opening band and then have the gall to refer to them in their review under an incorrect name. It is insulting and exemplifies a complete disregard for accurate reporting and journalistic principles (oh wait, this is the Daily right?). This is also a disservice to an up-and-coming band that could greatly benefit from being mentioned in a popular student newspaper.

One would assume that given all the effort CKUT puts into supporting the local scene that their influence would permeate other areas of McGill. Sadly, this is not the case. For example, last year's McGill AIDS benefit featuring an eclectic range of talented bands such as Les Poupees Gonflables, Westerman Groove Tube, the Umbrella's and Ellam for Zoe was attended by approximately twenty-five people. Perhaps if McGill's media had made more of an attempt to promote the event it would have been a success.

So, for those who are interested, Goldfish played a short, confident and moving set. Their sound is like layered textures of the Breeders and P.J. Harvey with occasional twinges of Cure nostalgia and eerily sweet harmonies that create a haunting, intoxicating, fragrant kind of mood. By the end of the show many boys lay drooling at Carrie's (vocals, guitar) feet begging for their picks and the set list. NO MORE LIES!

Simon Wayland, Arts

ERRATUM

On the front cover of the Wednesday, February 2nd issue of the Daily, the line "Interview with Chiapas Leader" was incorrect. Mario Rojas has never claimed to be a Chiapas leader. The Daily apologises to Mr. Rojas and regrets any inconvenience this caused him.

SINCE 1911
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THE MCGILL DAILY

Development Week: What exactly are we celebrating?

BY MARIE-JOSÉE JOHNSTON

"It is difficult for CIDA to concentrate on putting poverty first and encouraging self-reliance while, at the same time, it has commercial and political objectives that do not always lend themselves to dealing with poverty in a direct way and that encourage external dependency."

—Auditor General's Report on the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), 1993

Inconspicuously couched in language of "partnership", "empowerment" and "sustainable development" lies a foreign policy strategy that is both unethical and short-sighted. Obviously CIDA has always been interested in promoting Canada's interests, but the recession of the 1980s set off a strong, and growing demand for immediate financial pay-pack on "humanitarian" aid.

McGill Professor of Geography Warwick Armstrong is an outspoken critic of aid programs. "The well-being of those on low incomes, fragmentary employment and with little 'voice' in the important decisions affecting their lives, count for but a small part in the decisions taken by the wealthy industrial governments' strategies to proffer 'aid'. Far more important appear to be the siren attractions of political advantage and the possibilities for furthering economic exploitation and profit."

Excessive generosity?

Many middle-class Canadians complain about recessionary hardship, but as a nation we have the second highest material standard of living in the world. Our level of generosity is nothing to brag about. Less than two cents of every tax dollar goes to foreign aid, compared with eight cents of every dollar for defence.

Canadian aid, like most aid from industrialized nations, does little to reverse trends of global inequity. In 1990 countries in the southern hemisphere spent roughly the same amount of money on interest on loans to Canada as Canada spent on foreign aid that year.

While then-prime minister Mulroney pledged at the UN General Assembly and the Earth Summit to meet the agreed 0.7 per cent of GNP target, the numbers show a much different intention. In 1988, Official Development Assistance (ODA) accounted for 0.49 per cent of GNP. In 1993, this figure fell to 0.39 per cent.

Norway, Denmark, and the Netherlands have all surpassed the goal of giving 0.7 per cent of GNP, and give a much greater percentage of social priority aid, which includes primary health care, primary education, rural water supply and sanitation, and other basic needs. In 1993, only 9.2 per cent of all Canadian aid went towards social priority aid.

The Auditor-General's Report confirms that Canada's quality of aid is questionable. It noted in its review of aid to Bangladesh that two-thirds of aid between 1981 and 1990 was in food and commodity products. Although food aid is necessary for emergency situations, this "donation" acts as a disincentive to local production, creating an external dependence that contradicts the stated ODA goal of promoting self-sufficiency.

With the subsidy-induced overproduction of Canadian farmers, this type of food "aid" (or dumping) serves Canada's interest more than that of the recipient country.

Changing priorities

The Auditor-General's review was critical

of projects that served corporate agendas rather than humanitarian goals. Evaluating aid to Pakistan (\$1.3 billion to date) it notes that aid given in the 1980s financed state-owned infrastructure projects which were produced by the private sector in Canada. Projects for education, health, and expanding the productive capacity of the poorest people were not high on the agenda.

Tim Broadhead, former director of the Canadian Council for International Development (CCIC) argues that it is not the replacement of humanitarian objectives with corporate objectives, but "more the confusion of objectives, when people are asked to do several contradictory objectives simultaneously".

Even so, policy decisions are sending strong messages that suggest a low priority for humanitarian concerns. In March of 1993, CIDA ended all aid to Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar, Burundi, and Ethiopia. It announced a concentration of aid in countries where it was one of the largest donors in order to maximize its influence on the recipient country's policy.

The countries of preference are those in the "take-off" stage of development (mostly Asian countries) rather than those with "underdeveloped" infrastructures and little prospects for an immediate jump into competitive industrial production.

Since 1987 CIDA has been under the guidance of the Minister of External Affairs, who has the responsibility of helping to make decisions regarding the quality, quantity, and direction of aid. Not surprisingly, an increasing amount aid is channelled away from the South towards Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Armstrong condemns this decision to exploit the "profitable" potential of these newly opened economies as being "short-sighted

and unethical as it will be counterproductive" in achieving the stated ODA priority of alleviating world poverty.

Disguising the agenda

Bismarck once remarked that the best way to accomplish profound political change is to conceal it in the folds of bureaucracy. The changing agenda of CIDA is testimony to this wisdom.

The 1991 budget changed the definition of aid to hide further cuts to ODA. For example, when Canada's Export Development Corporation gives a deal to low income countries buying Canadian exports, this is now considered official aid.

Similarly, CIDA published "University Partnership in Co-operation and Development" in September of 1993. A "new and improved" project for university funding (entitled Tier I) drastically cut funding for all university projects to \$25 million, and restricted participation to only four or five universities each year.

This will concentrate university participation in projects to a very small area. Using a similar funding package to concentrate NGO participation, the great majority of CIDA dollars will be bid on by the private sector only, indicative of the intensified trade push.

McGill can apply for Tier I funding, but if allocation is based on a geographical formula, it may not go to the largest English speaking university in Quebec. Without this funding, many McGill programs would be in jeopardy, including funding for the Centre for Developing Area Studies documentation centre.

The human reality behind the trends

These trends of declining aid and changing priorities mask stark realities in human

terms. Professor Armstrong's experiences being the Director of a food systems development project (FSDP) in the Philippines have left him deeply sceptical about the value of the whole 'development package' that CIDA is pushing.

The FSDP was a joint project between McGill and the University of the Philippines in the Visayas developed to achieve equitable and sustainable levels of food consumption in three communities.

After five years of cooperation, Armstrong wrote a glowing report of the project, concluding that years of work has earned them the confidence of the communities and fostered a positive working relationship between the two universities. It came as a shock when CIDA decided unilaterally that the project would be terminated within three months.

Calling the CIDA bureaucracy "patriarchal, and autocratic to its very roots", in his final director's report Armstrong agreed with his Phillipino partners that the decision to terminate the projects "makes mockery of the claims of 'partnership' by the Agency".

He concludes, "in the case of the FSDP... it seems that the substance (poverty, malnutrition) has counted for less in CIDA's corridors than administrative and financial advantage and expediency... In the end, CIDA may have saved a little money, but in the process will have lost considerable goodwill in the Philippines. But it will have remained true to the precepts of regulatory bureaucratic rationalism."

Forgetting symptoms — examining the disease

Although there is a growing critique of the quality of Canadian aid, there is very little discussion about the notion of "development" itself. It is a relatively new and extremely ambiguous concept (coined in 1949 by Harry Truman), but it has come to be synonymous with benevolent "progress", and a necessary catching-up to the "exemplary" western industrialized nations.

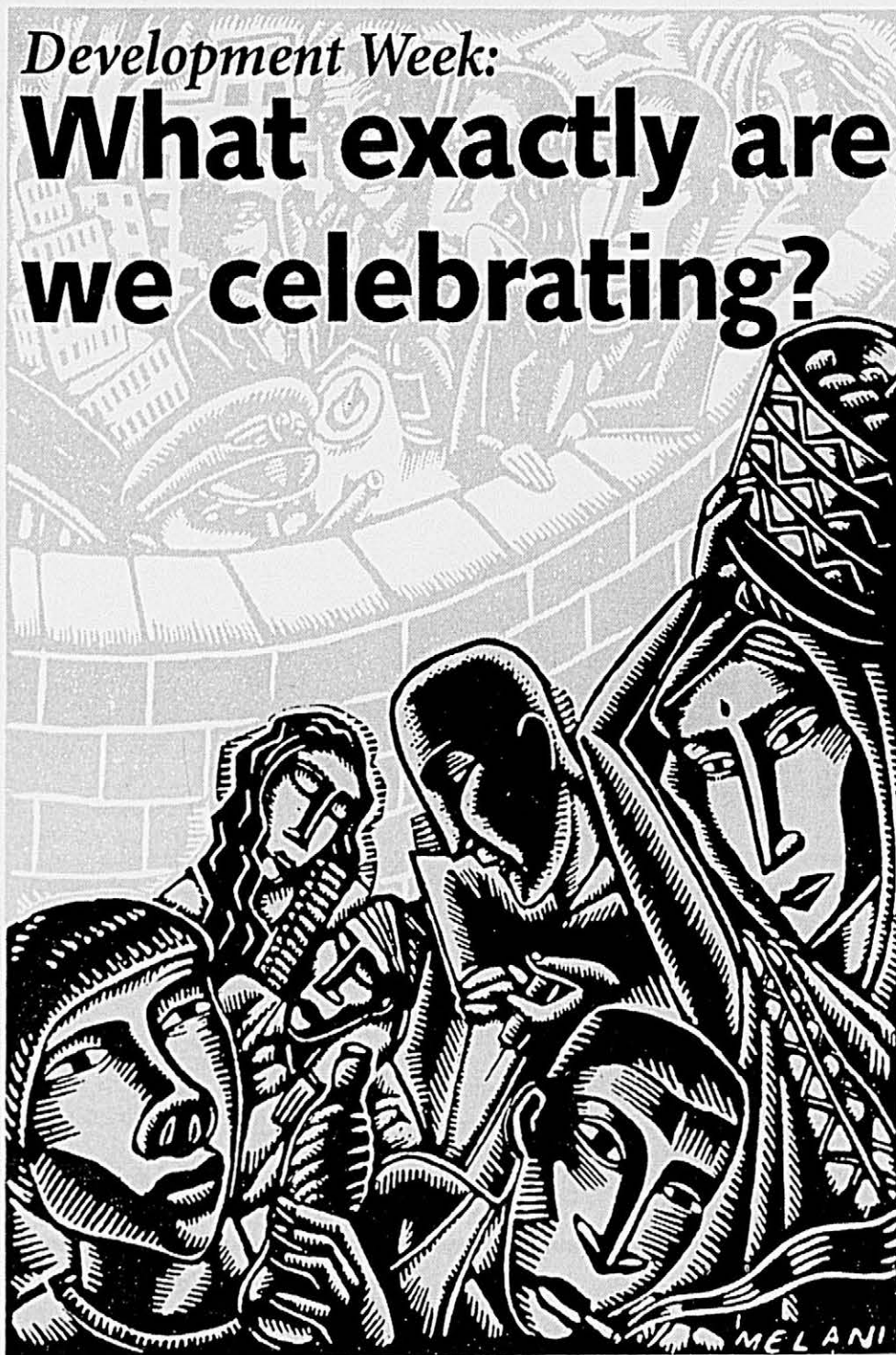
Robert Vachon, a director of the Intercultural Institute of Montréal, believes that a deep resistance to development programs have created a crisis within the field. He calls development "one view of the good life, the western view", but "there are people who view the good life as being radically different".

He denies that the Institute is against everything western, or that all aspects of development are negative, but he resists the portrayal of "development" as being a universal social solvent that must be administered to all the world's peoples. "There are no universal criteria," he vehemently insists.

Vachon traces this patronizing view to the Enlightenment, when the west became so taken up by their own technology, that they began to view the world as an emptiness to be filled.

The light at the end of a development tunnel, a utopia of mass consumption, is not only environmentally unsustainable, but it is also deeply ethnocentric. It is based on the arrogant assumption that western cultural, material, social and technological standards are superior, and should be sought after at all costs.

"We have no monopoly on truth," Vachon wants to remind all of the so-called development experts. There is a desperate need for humility, he says, which is crucial to entering into dialogue with other conceptions of the "good life", not just different views of development.



Security and skepticism

Divergent opinions on peace accord within Jewish community

BY DANI COLT

The Montréal Jewish community gathered last Tuesday to discuss the issue of security as affected by the Middle East peace accord. The debate drove home the uncertainty, shared by participants and spectators alike, over what exactly will occur in the highly volatile and emotionally charged arena of the Middle East.

The key question at the debate, "Gaza Jericho First: How Will It End?" was, will the Israeli peace process lead the way to a more secure Israel or facilitate the way for armed terror?

Guest speakers Dr. Gerald Steinberg, advisor to the Israeli delegation at the multilateral talks and disarmament issues expert, and Gary Ruben, executive director of Americans for Peace Now, disagreed on the security issue. Steinberg was fairly skeptical about the peace process.

"I do not see a stage where lions and lambs will lie down together and no one will remember who is which," he said.

According to Steinberg, some Israelis fear that the precarious



Gerald Steinberg, Gary Ruben and Thomas Hecht

power struggle emerging in the Gaza strip will affect Israel's home security.

"Fear number one is that by withdrawing forces from Gaza, groups such as Hamas and Jihad will take control, turning it into

an area of terror. Fear number two is that Israel will once again become a small and vulnerable area."

Gary Ruben provided the counter viewpoint. Like Steinberg, he is aware of what he calls, "the

waning of euphoria since the December 13th handshake," as Jewish support for the agreement has seemingly declined. He differed from Steinberg in that he saw upcoming peace between Israel and the Arab states.

"The progress that has been made is remarkable, progress that will continue to be made," said Ruben. "The final status negotiations have already begun. The discussions no longer involve the interim states themselves, but the role of the interim states in the final process."

Ruben's tone was generally more optimistic. He noted that Israelis and Palestinians have begun talking to each other in active dialogue, in both Gaza and the West Bank. The only way for lasting peace to occur, according to Ruben, is if these one on one interactions are encouraged.

Agreements have been worked out by Egypt, Israel and Jordan on cleaning up the oil spills in the Gulf of Aqaba, as part of the multilateral talks. Ruben also saw this as very promising.

"Here neighbours are getting together to save a common waterway. Peace is advancing. It will continue to advance if we continue to support it," he said.

Steinberg agreed with Ruben that Israelis are committed to the Oslo Agreement. He said there is a concern over whether the general Palestinian attitude is positive towards Israel.

"Yes, Arafat [PLO leader] is shaking Israeli hands, but the rhetoric remains anti-Israel and full of hatred," he said. "The burden of proof is on the Palestinians. They have to prove to Israel that the hatred and hostility has ended."

Steinberg questioned the PLO's ability to remain in power, and deliver on their words.

"They show no ability to work with Israel. No move has been made since the signing ceremony at the White House four months ago to show that they are willing to end the violence," he said.

Ruben responded, noting that the only way to end violence is to have a separation between Palestinians and Israelis, with each dominant in their own sphere. The violence in the past few months has not been aggravated by the peace talks, said Ruben. In fact the most violent month was March 1993, before the peace talks, where one Israeli on average was killed each day.

To Ruben, self-interest is what will ultimately save the Middle East.

"Israel is negotiating with the authorities of the regions," he said. "Once the benefits of peace are shown to both sides, that is what will make the peace hold."

Both Ruben and Steinberg agree that Israel really lacks an alternative. As Ruben said, "The worst case scenario would be to maintain the status quo, as it will lead to another war."

The future of the Americas

Caribbean representatives discuss the region's future

BY ARNOLD AUGUST

At the Fourth Latin American and Caribbean Gathering that took place in Havana, Cuba from January 25 to 28, 1200 delegates from 35 countries, including Canada, considered the role of the future of the region.

The following is a synopsis of January 27 interviews with Stephen Thomas, member of the Trinidad and Tobago delegation and Second-Vice-President of the Public Service Association union, and Everton Hanna, representing the ruling People's National Party's Youth Organisation of Jamaica.

Education

In exchanging experiences about education in the countries of the Americas, Everton Hanna said the situation in Jamaica is similar to the one in Canada. The Jamaican youth activist stated that the problems of Jamaican university students are tied to the effects of neo-liberal free-market policies.

Students now have to pay whereas before Jamaican post-secondary education was to a large extent free. "The cost of education has created a situation whereby the working people are having less and less access to university level education," said Trinidadian Stephen Hanna.

"The university population is

more and more under the sway of powerful financial interests," said Hanna. "The fees are very exorbitant."

Debt servicing

Thomas confirmed that Trinidad's problems with debt servicing are similar to Canada's. In Québec, for example, \$47.9 billion has been spent in the last 23 years on interest alone. The current total provincial government debt is \$51.2 billion, and while the government's debt is nothing but funds taken by money lenders, the government says it does not have the funds to invest in education, health and welfare.

In Trinidad, said Thomas, there is a view in favour of a moratorium on debt-servicing. In Trinidad the idea of completely canceling the debt has entered the debate. "31.8% of the Gross Domestic Product went to external debt servicing," said Thomas.

He went on to say that a few years ago the government declared that by 1996 the proportion should be reduced to 15.1%. But last year, the amount of external borrowing exceeded the equivalent of the 31.8% of G.D.P.

Trinidadians paid heavily for debt-servicing. Thomas drew the conclusion that they "are going deeper and deeper into this valley

of death. And one wonders how and when we will get out of it."

Regarding the threat of NAFTA spreading throughout the region, Thomas said that the problem the working people in Trinidad and much of the Caribbean have with NAFTA is that, while they recognize that the world is being re-ordered into trading blocks, NAFTA treats the Caribbean almost as if it is an inconsequential quantity.

Thomas went on to say that "We are being sacrificed at the altar in the sense that the U.S. dictates the patterns of trade in this part of the world without any regard as to how production is organized in our small countries.... We are not against the economic structures of the world being re-organized. But we are saying that it must be done in a way that is sensitive to the well-being and survival of our peoples."

Canadian participation

Both delegates attached a lot of importance to the fact that for the first time a Canadian delegation participated alongside delegations from Latin America and the Caribbean. Thomas said the participation of Canada is "significant in the sense that it represents a broadening of the dialogue."

When this forum started about 5 years ago, he went on, it involved

only the Latin American countries. Then Caribbean countries — the French, English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean — were included.

"Now we are recognizing that the problems that affect us are the problems that are also affecting the Americas. And therefore there is a need to include all the countries of the Americas, not just the Latin America and Caribbean areas."

This is so, said Thomas, because "we have found that in your delegation there are people who talk about the same kind of negative results of structural adjustment affecting you in very much the same way as it is affecting us."

Cuba

Lastly, Hanna stated that he and other Jamaican youth are working for solidarity with Cuba against the American blockade through a variety of activities. For example, last year they gathered material help for Cuban when it was hit by a hurricane. Jamaicans are also active in trying to persuade their government to take a stand against the blockade.

He expected that the resolutions to be adopted by the Gathering would give further impetus in his country as well as throughout the Americas and the Caribbean to support the right to self-determination of the Cuban people.

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-17, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.

McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$2.75 per day (\$11.00 per week). **McGill Employees (with staff card)** \$4.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$3.75 per day (\$15.00 per week). All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.25 per day for 4 or more consecutive days (\$17.00 per week). Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST or PST. For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER.** The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

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|--|--|
| <p>A) Students' Society of McGill Executive Positions
Vice President Internal Affairs
Vice President External Affairs
Vice President Finance
Vice President University Affairs</p> <p>B) Senators
Arts (2)
Dentistry (1)
Education (1)
Engineering (1)
Law (1)
Management (1)
Medicine (1)
Music (1)
Religious Studies (1)
Science (2)</p> | <p>C) Undergraduate Representatives to the Board of Governors (1)</p> <p>D) CKUT Board of Directors (2)</p> <p>E) Arts Undergraduate Society President
Vice President Administration
Vice President Academic
Vice President Internal
Vice President Finance</p> <p>F) QPIRG Board of Directors (9)</p> <p>G) DAILY Board of Directors (6)</p> |
|--|--|

Note:

Some positions may not be available for extended nominations. Please check with the SSMU office for confirmation of the available positions.

Note:

By-Law 1, Article 5.3 requires that referendum questions be published eighteen (18) days prior to the opening of the advanced poll. Due to a conflict between the publication dates and constitutional requirements, those individuals wishing to submit referendum questions should have the wording submitted to the Chief Returning Officer by Thursday, February 10, 1994 (noon). Petition forms must be completed by Tuesday, February 15, 1994 (noon).

The notice in the advertisement in the *McGill Tribune* was inaccurate and should be disregarded. The Chief Returning Officers apologize for any misunderstanding that the advertisement has caused. Further inquiries should be directed to the CROs.

Jane S. Rhee
Co-CRO

Dave Harman
Co-CRO

The nomination forms can be picked up at the Main Desk in the SSMU office in the Shatner Building, 3480 McTavish. Nomination forms are available until Feb. 15, 1994 12 noon. The deadline for all extended nominations is Feb. 15 at 12 noon. Further inquiries can be directed to the CRO's Jane Rhee and Dave Harman at 398-6810.



Launching off Trango Tower, Pakistan, for Base Climb

Spine tingling ...awe inspiring

Banff Festival of Mountain Films provides insight to mountain philosophy

BY THOMAS WHITE

If you weren't at the Howard Palmer theater last Thursday then you missed an amazing spectacle. That's when the Banff Festival of Mountain Films rolled into town.

The festival is the oldest and largest of its kind, showcasing films with mountain themes from around the world. The festival begins in Banff, Alberta where some thirty movies are screened over three days. Once the festival is finished and the winners acclaimed, a selection of the best films goes on tour around the world.

Thursday's soiree was organized by the Montreal chapter of the Alpine Club of Canada and the McGill Outing Club. Five films were presented that evening providing the audience with a glimpse at the diversity of mountain life and an idea of how far some people will go for a thrill.

Base climb was the first film of the evening and started amidst gasps from the audience. The opening scenes show the two "protagonists" jumping off of a very high cliff.

The film is about a BASE jumper (someone who jumps off of objects fixed to the ground with only a parachute) who joins forces with a climber in order to climb and jump

off of the great Trango Towers, the highest cliff in the world.

The film was extremely well made. Well placed cameras and an eye for gripping cinematography allows for the film to partially convey what it would feel like to do the jump.

The two films that followed are of little interest. *Walking on Ice* was about a Quebec climber and his ambition to climb "The Terminator", a cascade of ice that rarely forms completely. The name of the climb is enough to betray the cheesiness of this film. It's one of those 'the man, the mountain' type of scenarios. The film was made even more ridiculous because each time the climber almost fell, a typical slasher movie screeching noise sounded.

Assault on Empire State Mountain was a spoof of documentary climbing films, and was a good laugh.

The last two films, *Rivers of Maya* and *Ballad à Devil's Tower*, completed the evenings screenings well.

Rivers of the Maya took the viewer kayaking and caving in the area of Chiapas. As well as the 'adventure scenes', the film also made an attempt to educate the viewer

about the fate of the Mayan ruins in the area.

Unfortunately, the narration of the film was very hasty and disrupted the pace of the film. It is good that the film makers wanted to convey the realities of the problems that the area is facing, but they dealt with the issues too briefly to leave a lasting impression on the viewer. They also only dealt with the environmental aspects of the area leaving aside the problems that the people of Chiapas are facing.

Ballad à Devil's Tower ended the evening with the same vigor that *Base climb* had started. As one viewer put it afterwards: "It's a sort of *Thelma and Louise* of rock climbing". The camera follows Catherine Destivelle as she drives around Utah and Wyoming in a big convertible, free soloing routes up Indian Creek and Devil's Tower.

The Festival will continue to tour through North America. If you are ever somewhere where you have the opportunity to see it, I strongly recommend doing so. The films may (or may not) be released later on. They are worth the watch especially if you're into bone chilling, death defying acts like jumping off of bridges or climbing without protection.

Thin isn't in

Helping friends who suffer from eating disorders

BY TAYA TALUKDAR

You could be saving someone's life when you help them overcome an eating disorder.

People can die from eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia nervosa, says Susan Date, a social worker who runs a clinic for anorexic and bulimic adults in Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

According to Date, there is a 15% death rate among anorexics, who die from the effects of starvation. Eating disorders usually affect women—90-95% of people with eating disorders are women, college women being especially vulnerable.

While statistics on anorexia and bulimia abound, there is little information available on how to help friends suffering from these diseases.

Feeding the disease

Danielle Richardson, organizer of yesterday's symposium on eating disorders sponsored by Kappa Alpha Pheta, McGill Panhellenic and the McGill Inter-Greek Letter Council, says friends who want to help are often just "feeding the disease" when they don't know how to act properly.

"It's really tough knowing someone who's going through that, especially bulimia. You go to a restaurant with them and they go to the bathroom and you wonder what to do. If you get angry, it only makes it worse," says Richardson.

She believes there is a great need among college students, especially those who know someone with an eating disorder, to learn how to recognize and deal with the problem of eating disorders.

"People know when someone has an eating disorder, yet they're so afraid to approach that person because often they're so sensitive or perfectionist," she says.

How does one recognize when a friend has an eating disorder? According to Date, people with eating disorders are usually preoccupied with food and their weight. They talk constantly about food and their body image. She says they miss meals and are picky about the kinds of things they eat.

One danger sign is when they stop calling their friends. Date says people with eating disorders can become very anti-social, isolating themselves from their friends.

Another warning signal is excessive exercising. An anorexic or bulimic will exercise regardless of bad weather or sickness or any other factor which would keep a healthy person from exercising.

What to do

Date insists the most important thing a friend wishing to help someone who has an eating disorder

can do is simply express her concern and offer her support while still respecting the person's autonomy.

"Let the person know you are concerned about their well being and let them know you want to help," she says.

A friend wishing to help should also learn about the services available to people with eating disorders. Finding out where one can go to get professional help is a crucial step in the healing process.

As well, Date advises people to read as much material as possible about the problem.

"The more you know, the more you can help a friend in trouble," she says. "Providing a friend with information can help them recognize how serious the problem is."

She counsels patience for friends wishing to help, as it takes a long time for someone to come to terms with the fact that s/he has an eating disorder.

What not to do

One of the worst things a friend can do is to force or tempt someone with an eating disorder to eat. According to Date, people who suffer from eating disorders are very secretive and often only like to eat what they themselves have prepared. They turn to eating as a means of gaining control over one aspect of their life. To force or tempt them to eat may only aggravate the problem.

It is also important to avoid commenting on their appearance. To tell someone she is too skinny or debate her appearance is to merely reinforce the fact that there is something wrong with her, claims Date. Even compliments will only help perpetuate her obsession with body image.

Helping someone first recognize and then overcome their eating disorder requires a personalized approach. While there are a few general guidelines, it is up to friends, family, and the individual herself to determine what is best for her.

For adults over 17 1/2 years suffering from eating disorders, services are available at Date's clinic for anorexia and bulimia nervosa in Ste. Anne de Bellevue and the Eating Disorders Clinic at Douglas Hospital in Montréal. Call the clinic at 457-2811.

For those under 17 1/2 years of age, help is available at the Montréal Children's Hospital and St. Justin's Hospital. For out of province aid, contact the National Eating Disorder Information Centre at the Toronto General Hospital [(905) 340-4256].